



VOLUME 62 ISSUE 7

July 2012

ARRL AFFILIATED-SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB



Colorado's Mega-Fires

Boy Scout Camp Alexander near Lake George

July Ham Breakfast

LOCATION

Sandy's
6940 Space Village Ave

Saturday, 7 July 2012

Time is from 8:00-9:30 AM

**All are warmly invited to come on down
and join us!**

July Club Meeting

The July 11th club meeting will be
at the IHop on Stetson Hills Blvd
(just west of Powers Blvd).
5749 Stetson Hills Blvd.

PPRAA Club Officers

President	Mike Derbort	KCØELG
Vice President	Dan Scott	WØRO
Secretary	Diana Nordstrom	KCØNPP
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
Board	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board	John Wishart	KCØJFH
Board	Doug Neilsen	N7LEM
Board	Jim Bishop	KDØKQL
Board	Virgil Yost	NØXRS
Board	Kerrianne Dixon	KDØIPR
Ø-Beat Editor	Mike Anderson	WV7T

All officers can be contacted at:
boardmembers@ppraa.org

PPRAA FACE BOOK

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/P
PRAA-Pikes-Peak-Radio-Amateur-
Association/185833894769325?v=
wall](http://www.facebook.com/pages/P
PRAA-Pikes-Peak-Radio-Amateur-
Association/185833894769325?v=
wall)

For propagation

**A Index, K Index, Sunspot number,
and Solar Flux Index (SFI) go to this
site.**

<http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

Field Day at WV7T

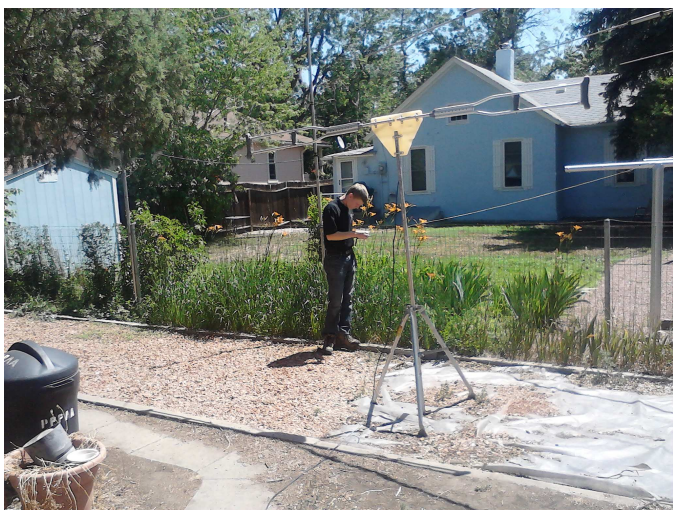
Big success and a big surprise!

Field Day morning started like all Field Day
mornings. The crew of 6 started out building a
homebrew antenna tuner. It looked good but failed
miserably.



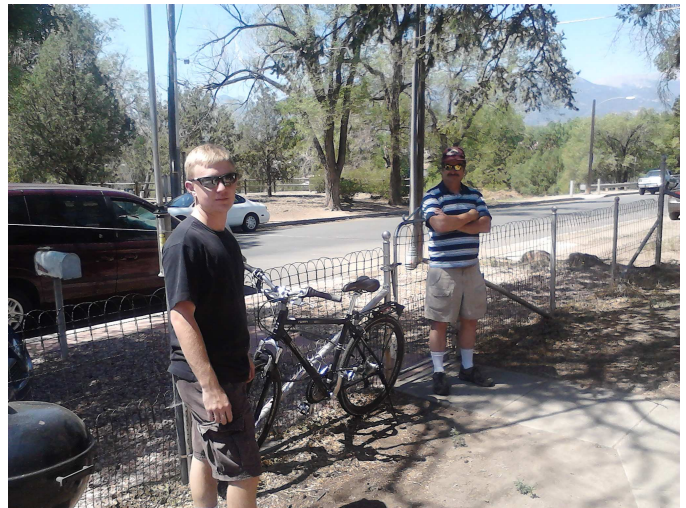
Bad tuner! Bad tuner!

Next was the 20m dipole. Several of the group put on connectors to the coax feeding the dipole. We used 468/f Mhz + 2 feet to find the length of the wire. Not too bad, we were close and 2 snips of the cutters and the antenna was ready verified by the antenna analyzer. Okay...now lets fired up the rig. Fire up was right, soon the smell of hot components filled the air. I guess we will forego the causalities that were in store for the operators. We interrupt this article with a Bar-B-Que. Hotdogs, hamburgers, potato salad, vegi beans, and chips. The feast was a complete success! So, we moved indoors to the FT-920 setting the power at 15w. We used the Cushcraft A3S, the 20m dipole, would you believe our “mystery” antenna simply out performed them. What is this “mystery” antenna? It is called “Crutchzilla!” The group stood in bewilderment, they were not sure of what to make of a dipole made from a set of crutches. Believe it or not it tuned easily on 20m and 15m and stations were worked from the east coast To California, Canada to South Texas. Both SSB and CW were employed. Who would have believed! The group cycled through operating SSB and making some fine contacts. So both hands-on training and operating experience rounded out our Field Day experience. And a wonderful person provided the funds for the Bar-B-Que. What a great day!



“Crutchzilla!”

In back, one of the “engineers” working on the 20m dipole



2 members of Team 7T.

Education and Licensing

Sunday Classes Roswell Community Church

2728 Beacon Street

Technician 1:00-3:00

General 3:00- 5:00

(Weeknights by arrangement)



Mike Anderson, WV7T
wv7t@arrl.net
719-229-8610

The new Extra Class question pool
will take effect July 1st 2012.

Extra Class course will start early.
Watch reflector for dates.

Hands-On Training
Saturdays 2-5pm.
510 West Polk Street
(Weather permitting)
Call first to make sure Training
will take place.

Below is a listing of instructional materials I can
order at a discount with free shipping.

Item #	Title	Retail	Discount Price
0977	<i>The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual</i> , 2nd ed. © 2010	29.95	22.47
0847	<i>ARRL's Tech Q&A</i> , 5th ed. © 2010	17.95	13.46
8737	<i>The ARRL Instructor's Manual</i> , 5th ed. © 2011	19.95	14.96
8119	<i>General Class License Manual</i> , 7th ed. © 2011	29.95	22.47
8089	<i>ARRL's General Q&A</i> , 4th ed. © 2011	17.95	13.46
5170	<i>Extra Class License Manual</i> , 9th ed. © 2008	29.95	22.47
4708	<i>ARRL's Extra Q&A</i> , 2nd ed. © 2008	17.95	13.46
9728	<i>Getting Started with Ham Radio</i> , 1st ed. © 2006	19.95	14.96
9558	<i>Basic Radio-Understanding the Key Building Blocks</i> 1st	29.95	22.46

ed. © 2005

0823	<i>Understanding Basic Electronics</i> , 2nd ed. © 2010	29.95	22.46
1155	<i>Basic Electronics Course and Kit</i>	55.00	41.25
0017	<i>Modulation and Wave Fundamentals Board</i>	69.00	51.75

PPRAA Apparel

Both **Silk Screen and Embroidered** (Shirts, T-Shirts, Hats, Badges, etc.), members pay for individual shirts. Embroidered - Club logo = \$7. Call sign and name ordered together = \$7, Call sign or name ordered separately = \$5 each. The number to call to order is: (719) 591-6151. Monograms by Jane.

Silkscreened - T-Shirts with a one color left chest logo only no name or call sign: Small thru Xlarge: \$8.75 ea. T-Shirts with one color logo on left and name with call sign on right side: Small thru Xlarge: \$9.60 ea. for XXlarge add \$2.00 per shirt.

POC Dick Thompson, WØRAA
719-520-0288

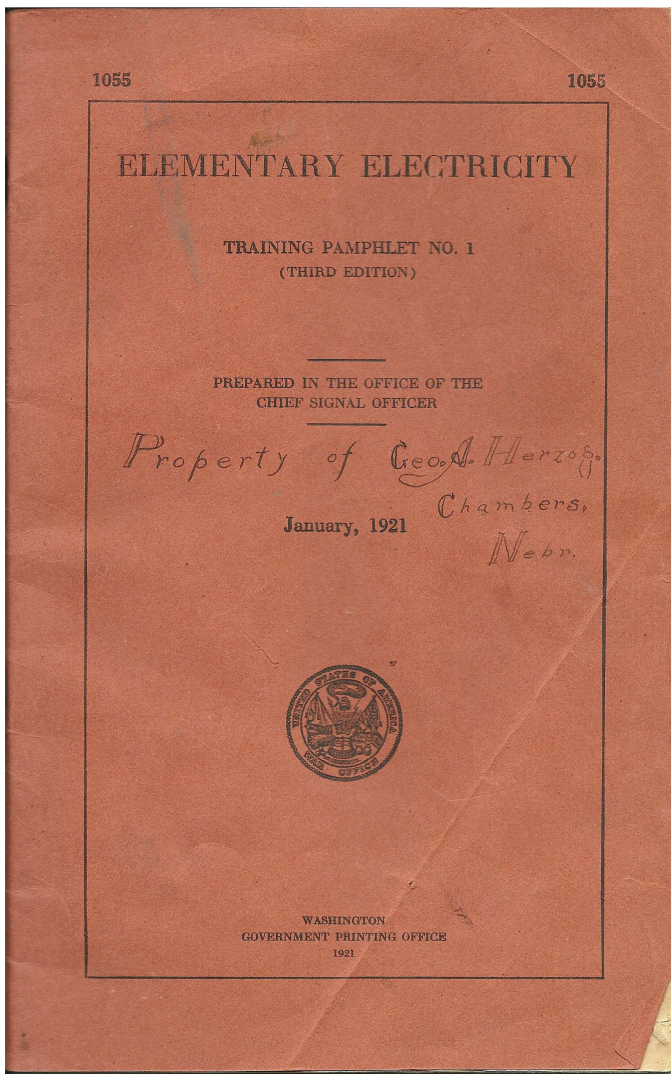
Ø-Beat July 1982

Field Day was a big success. Stations operated using NØST callsign on CW, HF SSB, novice and VHF bands. All had beams and wires. CW logging was done on an HP computer. Despite rain on Friday night, the totals were CW 699, HF 512, novice 168, VHF 18, and a second HF phone got 442. KOAA covered the event on the 5 o'clock news. Jake NØCYR cooked the breakfast with beer pancakes and eggs. Ø Beat editor notes the Ø Beat this month is a little sparse due to lack of articles contributed.



Online Spotter Course

<http://www.stormspotters.org>



Training pamphlet 1921

JULY CONTESTS

July 2012

± RAC Canada Day Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1

± WAB 144 MHz Low Power Phone 1000Z-1400Z, Jul 1

± 10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party 0001Z, Jul 2 to 2400Z, Jul 8

± RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Jul 2

± ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Jul 3

± MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint 2300Z, Jul 4 to 0300Z, Jul 5

± QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Jul 6

± NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 6

± Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest 0000Z, Jul 7 to 2359Z, Jul 8

± DL-DX RTTY Contest 1100Z, Jul 7 to 1059Z, Jul 8

± Original QRP Contest 1500Z, Jul 7 to 1500Z, Jul 8

± PO DXS 070 Club 40m Firecracker Sprint 2000 local, Jul 7 to 0200 local, Jul 8

± SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 0000Z-2359Z, Jul 8

± DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Jul 8

± QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint 2000Z-2359Z, Jul 8

± NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Jul 9

± CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Jul 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jul 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jul 12

± RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Jul 11

± QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Jul 13

± NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 13

± FISTS Summer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Jul 14

± IARU HF World Championship 1200Z, Jul 14 to 1200Z, Jul 15

± CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush 2000Z-2159Z, Jul 15

± NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Jul 19

± RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data 1900Z-2030Z, Jul 19

± QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Jul 20

± NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 20

± DMC RTTY Contest 1200Z, Jul 21 to 1200Z, Jul 22

± Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1800Z, Jul 21

± North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Jul 21 to 0600Z, Jul 22

± CQ Worldwide VHF Contest 1800Z, Jul 21 to 2100Z, Jul 22

± SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Jul 25

± CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Jul 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jul 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jul 26

± QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Jul 27 ± NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 27

± RSGB IOTA Contest 1200Z, Jul 28 to 1200Z, Jul 29

± New Jersey QSO Party 1600Z, Jul 28 to 2000Z, Jul 29

± AGCW QRP/QRP Party 1300Z-1900Z, May 1

SIX Meter Net

Thursday evenings after the 10 meter net on **50.125** Mhz USB.

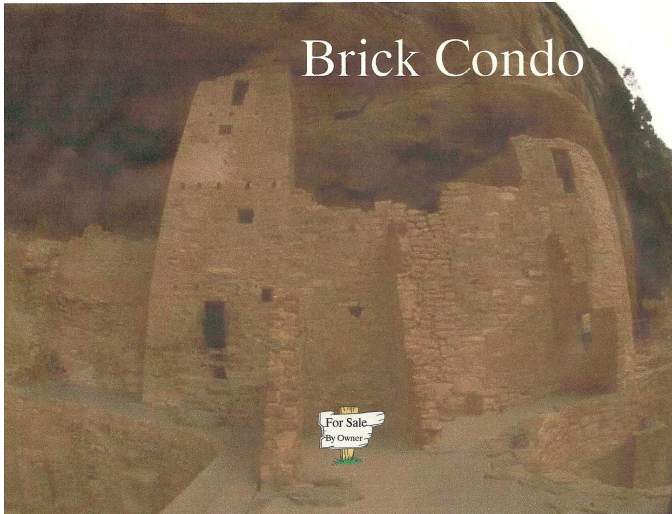


PPRAA / Pikes Peak Ten Ten Thursday Evening Net

Please join us for the Thursday Night 10-meter net. We meet at 7:00 PM (Local) on or near **28.390 Mhz** USB. The goal of the net is for Technicians through Extra class operators to enjoy a weekly on-the-air chat, and experiment with various transmission

modes. The outcome of the net has been a great success. It gives new operators a better understanding of radios, filter usage, mic gain, transmission line..etc.

We give out 10-10 numbers!



A PDF version of the ARRL VE Manual is available. Let WV7T know if you would like a copy.

MARC July VE Exam

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 10 am on Saturday, July 7th, in the Community Meeting Room of the Woodland Park Library, 218 East Midland Avenue. The MARC VE Team is affiliated with the ARRL/VEC and examinations for all classes of license will be offered.

Full information, including driving directions to the Woodland Park Library, is available under “VE Sessions” on the MARC website at <http://www.nx0g.org/ve.html> or contact Wes Wilson (KØHBZ) at k0hbx@arrrl.net or call (719) 687-8758.

If attending, please BE SURE to bring the following items to the session:

1. A valid **PHOTO ID**, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).
2. Your **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER** (now required – this includes children).
3. Your **ORIGINAL** amateur radio license (if any) **AND** a **PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.
4. The **ORIGINAL** of any relevant **CSCEs** you have **AND** a **PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.
5. **Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15** (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to MARC and covers all the different exams you wish to take at the VE session.

MARC VE Team policy, as with many VE Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

For already licensed hams, MARC members should be monitoring the MARC repeater system 146.820- or 448.650- (both 107.2 Hz) if you need help with talk-in.

73 Wes KØHBZ

VE Exams at Megafest

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA) VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 14th at Megafest in the Lewis Palmer High School. The PPRAA VE Team is affiliated with the ARRL/VEC and examinations for all classes of license will be offered.

If attending, please BE SURE to bring the following items to the session:

1. A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).
 2. Your SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (including children) or FCC REGISTRATION NUMBER (FRN) are needed. The FRN is if you have a license or have pre-registered on the FCC.gov website.
 3. Your ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
-

4. The ORIGINAL of any relevant CSCEs you may have AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.

5. PLEASE NOTE: The standard ARRL/VEC exam fee is \$15 cash, check or money order (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to ARRL/VEC and will cover all the exams you wish to take at the VE session.

PPRAA VE Team policy, as with many VE Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

73 as always...

Galen Steele Jr, AGØA
PPRAA VE Contact
719-213-1109

Ditz and Bitz

For Sale or Wanted

Have something to sell or trying to find something or just want to see something get to a good home? Send it in to wv7t@arrl.net and see it in Dits and Bits. Also, visit the PPRAA Forum's online Ditz and Bitz at www.ppraa.forumotion.net !!

ARRL Incoming QSL Bureaus

<http://www.arrl.org/incoming-qsl-service>

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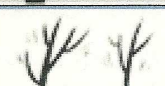








Callsign Word Match for
July is

JULY
FOURTH

Technical Articles Go Here

We are all technical experts in the areas of
Ham Radio we enjoy most. Share that
passion with club members!

Estimating Winds...

Wind Speed		Effects on Land
Under 1		Calm; smoke rises vertically.
1-3		Smoke drift indicates wind direction; vanes do not move.
4-7		Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; vanes begin to move.
8-12		Leaves, small twigs in constant motion; light flags extended.
13-18		Dust, leaves, and loose paper raised up; small branches move.
19-24		Small trees begin to sway.
25-31		Large branches of trees in motion; whistling heard in wires.
32-38		Whole trees in motion; resistance felt in walking against the wind.
39-46		Twigs and small branches broken off trees.
47-54		Slight structural damage occurs; slate roofs blown off.
55-63		Seldom experienced on land; trees broken, structural damage occurs.
64-72		Very rarely experienced on land; usually with widespread damage.
72 or higher		Violence and destruction.

Information needed for contest submission

Callsign	Class	Date	Contest	Score
WV7T	SOQRP	12-4-11	ARRL 160m	120
WV7T				
WV7T				
WV7T				
				120

PPRAA May Board Meeting Agenda

14 May 2012

Call to Order 6:40pm – Kerrienne Dixon, Pam Scott, Dan Scott, Jim Bishop, John Wishart, Virgil Yost, Tom Brereton, Diana Nordstrom, Mike Derbort, Mike Anderson, Doug Nielsen

- night dinner not to exceed \$200, Kerrienne seconds, board approves
- Club Station – Tower take down time?
- Membership – ~113 members total, need to track renewals from Christmas freebies

New Business

- Field Day – need radios, computers, antennas, and band plans, networking?

2012 Goals and Objectives

- New Website with Members only area and integration between Forums site and calendar
- Membership - Goal 150. – Where are we?
- Club Station – Online and available
- O-beat – At least one technical article per month
- Scholarship fund

Approval of the April board meeting minutes – John motions, Pam seconds, board approves

Committee Reports

- Treasurer's report – One online table register, one online membership renewal
 - Financials - \$7,293.93
- Building committee
 - Shed & Station Building –Need committee chair, Virgil to check on custom built shed and Jay's for pricing
- Electronic Media – Add donation options, new website been up a month, 15 registered members
- Tech Ed- No classes this past week, good attendance
- Megafest 2012 - Financial goal - \$2500 - Where are we with table registration for Megafest? – 8 more tables registered, and RT Systems, Inc "sponsorship", need people to take and sell raffle tickets, Pam motions for setup

Special Events

- Events for the coming year?

Unfinished Business

- **HAM Breakfast? Do we have conflicts?**
No known conflicts
Around the table

Virgil – ARRL press releases for Field Day – should we send one to local news sites? When to send?

Pam – Colorado HAMCON 2013– end of June after Field Day

Dan – Link a scout camp out to Field Day, need to assemble beams – do them on June 10th in the afternoon (1 to whenever), Next programs: awards in June, homebrew/boat anchors in July, need more ideas!

Adjourn – Pam moves, Tom seconds, Adjourns at 8:06pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING: MONDAY, 11 JUNE 2012.
LOCATION: DANIELS TACO SHOP.

MAY 2012 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1900 HRS introductions

minutes W0PRS - SECOND N7LEM

Repeater @ Raton Pass is up and working,
after discovering the lightning arrestors weren't
working

Field Day out at Ham site (Barb & Brad's)
in Ellicott

Mega Fest (prizes) (date & times) help for
set-up & take down needed. Please contact Mike
Derbort Friday 1600 to 1800

next month VE session / VEs needed

10% off @ Centennial 19TH May.

New Web Site up & running (notify
N7LEM for problems with site)

AWARDS - WOLFSPRING – KD0OXU
for comments in the forum.

Facebook, Google plus, Forums, come see
are new fangled sites

Mark new extra – passed all three in one
first time around from no call to extra in one VE
session.

Program, ab0cq & k0fei, QRP.
Colorado QRP club www.crc.org
low power operations

Doc speaks on 10M & 6M

PPRAA June Board Meeting Agenda

11 June 2012

Call to Order at 6:40pm. Members present were: Doug Nielsen, Kerrienne Dixon, Pam Scott, Dan Scott, Jim Bishop, Mike Anderson, Rhoda Anderson (guest), Tom Brereton, Diana Nordstrom, Virgil Yost, John Wishart, and Mike Derbort

- Electronic Media – Website is growing, have been receiving payments online, working through paypal issues
- Megafest 2012 - Financial goal - \$2500 – 20-30 tables registered, Museum display of Titanic Radio Room will be there, Setup will be 4-6pm the Friday before
- Field Day – Doug moves for not more than \$300 for food, John seconds, board approves

New Business

2012 Goals and Objectives

- New Website with Members only area and integration between Forums site and calendar
- Membership - Goal 150. – Where are we? - 125, including inactive members and those with free memberships. Board has agreed to remove inactive members 12 months after their membership expiration date
- Club Station – Online and available
- 0-beat – At least one technical article per month
- Scholarship fund

Special Events

Unfinished Business

- **HAM Breakfast** Sandy's 6940 Space Village Ave, Saturday, 7 July 2012

Around the table

Jim – ARES is still looking for volunteers for the following events: Big Mtn AR (6/22), Captain Mtn Bike Race (6/24), Komen Ride (6/24), PPIHC (7/8), RoundupRun (7/8), and PP Assault (7/14). Signup at <http://www.ppares.net>

Approval of the May board meeting minutes – To be approved by July's meeting

Committee Reports

- Treasurer's report – Table sales for Megafest are up, need to sell more raffle tickets
 - Financials - \$8,086.55
- Building committee
 - Shed & Station Building – Need blueprints to get a quote for a custom built 10' x 16'. New option: buy a stripped down 52' trailer and convert it
 - 40ft Rohn tower – need assistance for getting the tower onto the ground – Dan volunteered to help coordinate

Adjourn - Tom motions, Kerrienne seconds, board adjourns at 8pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING: MONDAY, 9 JULY 2012.
LOCATION: DANIELS TACO SHOP.

PPRAA June Club

Meeting Agenda

13 June 2012

Call to Order at 7pm

Introductions (Around the room) – Name –
Call Sign

Silent Keys - none

Approval of the May club meeting
minutes – To be approved at the July
meeting

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer's Report** – Need to sell more raffle tickets! Club has \$8,086.55 in its accounts
- **Club Station update** – Still looking for buildings, need volunteers to help take down a 40ft Rohn tower
- **Electronic Media** – New website! Please register on the website
- **Scholarship Fund** – Please donate for the 2013 school year.
- **Tech Ed** – Need more VEs, Classes: Tech is from 1-3pm, General is from 3 – 5pm on Sunday afternoons
- **ARES Update** - ARES is still looking for volunteers for the following events: Big Mtn AR (6/22), Captain Mtn Bike Race (6/24), Komen Ride (6/24), PPIHC (7/8), RoundupRun (7/8), and PP Assault (7/14). Signup at <http://www.ppares.net>

Current Events

- **Field Day at Club Site** –
 - Setup: June 22rd, 1400

- Operations: June 23th, Noon until June 24th Noon
- Tear Down: June 24th, Noon
- Where:
 - 3622 Bar 10 Road, Calhan, CO
- Talk In: 146.580
- Saturday Lunch 1100-1300
Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Brats, chips
- Saturday Dinner 1700-1900
PotLuck
- Sunday Breakfast 0700-0900
Eggs/omelets, coffee & juice
- Notes:
 - We will provide coffee during the 24 hours of station operation.
 - There will not be a charge for meals, but donations will be welcome at the site to help cover the cost of food.
 - For the potluck dinner Saturday night, we will provide meat and drinks. You should bring a side dish to share. Please bring a dish based on the first letter of your last name:
 - A thru I – dessert
 - J thru R – salad
 - S thru Z – side dish
 - We are also needing 3 to 4 volunteers for each of the three meals to help with KP (serving, cleaning up).
 - Mike Anderson is hosting a learning Field Day at his house, with an antenna build on the 16th from 2 to 5pm. Visit him to learn

Membership Application
Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935

Date: _____ ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call: _____ License Class: _____ Telephone: _____

Are you an ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E-mail address: _____

☐ Full Member - \$15.00

☐ Full Member over 65 - \$10.00

☐ Free - VE Signature Required:

☐ Family Membership (same address) - \$18.00

☐ Family Membership (both over 65) - \$12.00

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 16521
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 USA

To: